



Arizona Camp Horn

Facility and Location

Camp Horn was 1 of 11 Divisional field training camps developed from the Desert Training Center (DTC) or California-Arizona Maneuver Area (C-AMA). Although the DTC includes nearly 18,000 square miles, the Camp Horn Formerly Used Defense Site (FUDS) consisted of only 9,795 acres. The Laguna Maneuver Area, a separate FUDS (No. J09AZ043906) surrounds it to the west, north and east. The DTC was approved in February 1942 with the intent of providing the Army with a large, multiple use area to train soldiers to prepare for war in the deserts of North Africa.

The Army established Camp Horn a year and a half later on the north side of the Southern Pacific Railroad, roughly halfway between Yuma and Phoenix. It was a field encampment (e.g., tent camp) meant only for temporary use (in operation about eight months) and had only a minimum of facilities. The camp was occupied by the 81st Infantry Division between July and November 1943 for the sixth of the eight phases of training conducted at the DTC. The 104th Infantry Division occupied the camp for the last phase between November 1943 and February 1944.

Camp Horn was closed by the end of February 1944 and use of the C-AMA was discontinued by April 15, 1944. The training program included intensive marksmanship and familiarization firing with a number of weapons systems including small arms, mortars (61mm and 81mm), grenades (hand and rifle), artillery, rockets, booby traps, and land mines. This training occurred on a number of small arms ranges and training areas surrounding, and potentially within, the containment area. The training also included combat firing exercises and firing problems progressing into larger field exercises that occurred in the areas beyond the encampment. Chemical warfare training also occurred, probably including the use of toxic agents in decontamination exercises; however, a specific chemical warfare materiel training range was not located.

Media Sampled and Findings

Drinking Water — In 2007, three of three samples detected perchlorate at 1.3 ppb.

Appropriate Actions

Not Applicable. All samples were below the EPA and DoD Preliminary Remediation Goal of 15 ppb.